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PRESS RELEASE

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Lt. Governor Peter Kinder names Doug Austin of Cape Girardeau as Senior Service Award Winner

Award recognizes volunteer work by Missouri Seniors

JEFFERSON CITY – Missouri Lt. Governor Peter Kinder today announced 35 winners of the Lieutenant Governor's Senior Service Award, including Doug Austin of Cape Girardeau.

Lt. Governor Kinder presented the awards today at a luncheon for the winners and their guests outside his office in the Capitol. Austin was nominated by Jackson Police Chief James Humphreys and Julia Thompson, director of the Cape Girardeau Parks and Recreation Department.

Austin has been active in many organizations in the Cape Girardeau area, including the Southeast Missouri Area Agency on Aging, Cape Girardeau Seniors and Lawmen Together (SALT), Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), Southeast Missouri Hospital Auxiliary, Girardeau Goes Green Advisory Council, Cape Girardeau 2010 Census Committee, Cape Girardeau Community Relations Advisory Council, Cape Girardeau Chamber of Commerce, Citizen's Police Academy, I Love Cape Committee, Keep Cape Beautiful Committee, Old Towne Cape, Gideon International, SEMO Son Riders Christian Motorcyclist Chapter, Silver Haired Legislature Alma Schrader Elementary School volunteer tutor, Toastmasters, Friends of the Library, Missouri Baptist Bikers Fellowship and Patriot Guard Riders.

He also is active in Bethany Baptist Church, the Shining Light Baptist Outreach Center Inc., Cape Girardeau Baptist Association, Missouri Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Doug is the epitome of what a community servant, friend and truly sincere and caring person should be," said Humphreys in his nomination. "I would hate to see where SALT would be if Doug Austin was not a part of it. He is what keeps the wheels turning in this program, (and) his commitment to senior citizens and law enforcement is unwavering."

Thompson said Austin has been a key leader in Cape Girardeau's "Keep Cape Beautiful" committee. "Mr. Austin is bigger than life with a gregarious personality of which you can tell he supremely cares about his city and is ready to give back," she said. "He loves this city and . . . participates in many city volunteer efforts."

Lt. Governor Kinder presented Austin with an official declaration and a Senior Service Award lapel pin at a ceremony in the Capitol.

"Doug Austin sets an example for all Missourians with his kindness and willingness to serve his community, his church and the entire Cape Girardeau area," Kinder said. "His selfless service is an inspiration to all who him."

Kinder this year received more than 150 nominations for the Senior Service Award, naming 34 winners representing the state's 34 Senatorial Districts and one at-large winner. Austin won in District 27.